



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,470	06/26/2003	Duane Palme	1180.1101101	3511

7590

06/29/2004

Glenn M. Seager  
CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC  
Suite 800  
1221 Nicollet Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55403-2420

EXAMINER

DEVORE, PETER T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3751

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/606,470

Applicant(s)

PALME

Examiner

Peter T deVore

Art Unit

3751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/23/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 7-13, 15-19, 22, 23-27, 29, 30, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ford in view of Roman.

The Ford reference discloses a brush assembly comprising a brush 11 and a telescoping handle including an actuatable dispenser 13, but does not disclose that the brush is a stationary brush in combination with motor driven rotary brush. Instead, the brush 11 is non-powered. However, attention is directed to the Roman reference, which discloses a similar brush assembly including a stationary brush concentrically disposed around a rotary brush 14 driven by pneumatic motor 21 and gearing mechanism 19 and 20. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute a stationary brush concentrically disposed around a pneumatic motor driven rotary brush for the non-powered brush in the Ford assembly in view of the teachings of Roman for improved cleaning action of the device.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, 15-17, 19-21, 25-27, 29, 30, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ford in view of Armbruster (5,289,605).

The Ford reference discloses a brush assembly comprising a brush 11 and a telescoping handle including an actuatable dispenser 13, but does not disclose that the brush is a motor driven rotary brush. Instead, the brush 11 is non-powered. However, attention is directed to the Roman reference, which discloses a similar brush assembly including a rotary brush 82 driven by electric motor 36 and gearing mechanism 40, 46, and 48. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute an electric motor driven rotary brush for the non-powered brush in the Ford assembly in view of the teachings of Roman for improved cleaning action of the device. Regarding claim 17, note that the brush is stationary when the device is not powered.

Claims 14, 28, and 31 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ford in view of Armbruster as applied to claims 1 and 17 above, and further in view of Fromm.

The Ford reference discloses a brush assembly as discussed supra, but does not disclose a hose removably connected to the handle. However, attention is directed to the Fromm reference, which discloses a similar assembly including a hose removably connected to the handle (see Figure 1) for a convenient supply of pressurized cleaning water to the assembly. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a hose removably connected to the handle of the modified Ford device in view of the teachings of Fromm for a convenient supply of pressurized cleaning water to the assembly.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter T deVore whose telephone number is (703) 306-5481. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Huson can be reached on (703) 308-2580. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Pd



GREGORY L. HUSON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700